



PRESS RELEASE

From The Office Of
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For Immediate Release

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Bellone Announces \$600k Available in Downtown Revitalization Grants

***Bellone: “Investing in our Downtowns is critical to securing the
economic future of Suffolk County”***

*Grant Applications for “Round 15” Downtown Revitalization Grants Must Be Submitted by May
26 Deadline*

(Hauppauge, NY – January 11, 2017) – Today, County Executive Steven Bellone and the Suffolk County Downtown Revitalization Citizens Advisory Panel announced that applications for “Round 15” Suffolk County Downtown Revitalization Grants are available. A pool of \$600,000 is available for partial funding of capital projects located in or adjacent to downtown areas on municipally-owned property. The County will also host an Applicant Training Session at the H. Lee Dennison Building Media Room on Tuesday, January 31st from 2:30pm – 4:30pm.

Applicants must be organizations that represent a downtown area and who partner with their local municipality. Organizations that represent downtown areas including business improvement districts, chambers of commerce, civic associations, historical societies, beautification societies, and local development corporations are eligible applicants. Towns or villages who partner with a community organization are required to pass resolutions supporting the project on which the two entities partner. Projects must be capital in nature and have a significant and sustainable impact that enhances economic activity.

“We are excited to announce that more funds have been made available to help Suffolk County achieve its goal of creating robust downtowns around the County. Since 1997 Suffolk County has awarded over \$11M in funds for Downtown Revitalization initiatives, and we look forward to continue supporting initiatives that foster our economic growth,” said County Executive Steve Bellone. “I strongly encourage all eligible entities to participate in the upcoming training session and also apply for the grant. Investing in our downtowns and their infrastructure are not only critical to creating economic growth, but they also help showcase the beauty that makes Suffolk County the ideal place to live and invest.”

The County received 23 applications for the 2016 “Round 14” grants and 14 projects were funded. Among the various projects that are eligible for grants are public parking facilities, curb and sidewalk construction, pedestrian walkways, street lighting, public restrooms, disabled accessibility, renovations to existing structures, cultural and recreational facilities. The 14 projects that received full or partial funding include:

- **Port Jefferson Harbor Education and Arts Conservancy** (Village of Port Jefferson) – Upgrade restrooms and entrances at the Port Jefferson Village Center to be handicapped accessible;

- **Patchogue Theatre For the Performing Arts** (Village of Patchogue) – Replace the Patchogue Theatre marquee with a state of the art marquee, featuring graphics, LED lighting and a computer software operating system;
- **Amityville Chamber of Commerce** (Village of Amityville) – Improve infrastructure on Park Ave. including road rehab, drainage, light poles, ADA ramps and crosswalks;
- **Lindenhurst Chamber of Commerce** (Village of Lindenhurst) – Refurbish Village owned parking lots on North Wellwood Ave and South First St. including lighting, guardrails and concrete sidewalks;
- **Sayville Chamber of Commerce** (West Sayville -Town of Islip) – Complete decorative street lighting project on the north side of Montauk Highway;
- **Brightwaters Downtown Revitalization Committee** (Village of Brightwaters) – Install street/sidewalk improvements on the southwest quadrant of 4 corners on North Windsor Ave and Orinoco Dr. including lights, pavers, ramp;
- **Bay Shore Chamber of Commerce** (Town of Islip) – Develop a waterfront park at the head of the canal on Penataquit Creek in downtown Bay Shore to include lights, brick pavers, cobblestone, flagpole;
- **Sayville Chamber of Commerce** (Town of Islip) – Install curb and drainage on access roadway to downtown parking lot.(Center St);
- **Islip Chamber of Commerce** (Town of Islip) – Install streetlights between parking lots and Main St.;
- **East Islip Chamber of Commerce** (Town of Islip) – Install decorative streetlights and new curbing/sidewalks and decorative lights to revive park on SE corner of Bayview Ave. and Main St.;
- **The Cold Spring Harbor Main Street Association, Inc.** (Town of Huntington) – Install historic streetlights and sidewalk repair along Harbor Rd in front of Firemen's Park;
- **West Islip Chamber of Commerce** (Town of Islip) – Install decorative streetlights on south side of Union Blvd between Birch St. and Beech St.;
- **Riverhead Business Improvement District** (Town of Riverhead) – Upgrade to LED lighting in area of LIRR/Court complex and Second St., Union Ave., Maple Ave.; and
- **Medford Taxpayers and Civic Association** (Town of Brookhaven) – Install improvements to Medford Memorial Park including installation of pavilion and kiosk.

Criteria for eligible projects include, but are not limited to the following:

- Must be a capital improvement project and funding request must be at least \$10K;
- Must partner with a municipality and be located on municipally-owned property in or adjacent to a downtown; and
- Project life-span must be at least 15 years.

The Downtown Revitalization Citizens Advisory Panel utilizes a point system to evaluate each application to ensure projects that receive funding will make the greatest contribution to the long-term improvement of local downtowns and have a positive economic impact on Suffolk County as a whole.

The application and guidelines can be found at:

<http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/EconomicDevelopmentandPlanning/DowntownRevitalizationCitizensAdvisoryPanel.aspx>

Applications are due by the 4:30PM on May 26, 2017. For more information on the County's Downtown Revitalization initiative, log on to www.suffolkcountyny.gov or www.facebook.com/stevebellone.

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